Montana Newsletter

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MONTANA NEWSLETTER

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PUBLIC LIBRARIES — The Flathead County Free Library has received a $698,900 grant from the Economic Development Administration to fund expansion of the main library building at 1st Ave. E. & 3rd St. It will provide an additional 15,000 sq. ft. of space, including a substructure for future expansion and the addition of a 3rd floor. Construction was started this spring. The Flathead County Free Library is in Kalispell.

At the November, 1976, general election, voters in Phillips County voted to allow bonds to be issued for the construction of a Phillips County Library. Construction is expected to be completed in December. The Phillips County Library is located in Malta.

The Livingston Public Library will be expanded with revenue sharing funds from the City of Livingston and Park County. Plans call for enlarging the interior of the library an additional 3,500 sq. ft. It is hoped that the necessary funds will be available so that a contract can be let this spring.

The residents of Sunburst, Toole County, surrounding counties and friends as far away as Texas are working to make the North Toole County Library a reality. Donations received were used to purchase the property where the new library will be located and to pay for a survey. Individuals and groups have offered their time and talent during construction. Bids were let April 13 on construction of the new library.

COMMISSION MEMBER — Mrs. Mildred Sullivan, Glendive, has been appointed to the Montana State Library Commission by Governor Thomas Judge. Mrs. Sullivan's term is for three years. She replaces Mr. Don Gibson, also from Glendive.

ULMS — A project of Montana Library Association, made possible by an LSCA grant from Montana State Library, has been completed.

The Union List of Montana Serials (ULMS) involved academic, public and special libraries throughout the state working together to provide an effective bibliographic tool for interlibrary cooperation and a guide to avoid duplication of expensive titles.

The Minnesota Interlibrary Telecommunication Exchange (MINITEX) produced ULMS on 24x microfiche.

ST. PATRICK HOSPITAL LIBRARY — The St. Patrick Hospital Library will be closed from June 13, 1977, to September 6, 1977.

SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA AWARD — A $5,000 prize for the most outstanding achievement in providing exemplary media programs at the elementary level is being offered to school systems submitting applications for the 1978 School Library Media Program of the Year.

The awards program, now in its sixth year, is cosponsored by the American Association of School Librarians and the Encyclopaedia Britannica Companies.

For application forms, write to the American Association of School Librarians, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611, or your state school library media supervisor. Completed applications must be submitted no later than November 14, 1977.

BIENNIUM BUDGET — The 1977 Montana Legislature approved a spending level for the State Library of $572,915 for FY 1978 and $579,013 for FY 1979. The Legislature appropriated $317,000 for each year of the biennium from the state general fund for operation of the State Library. $225,915 for FY 1978 and $262,013 for FY 1979 from expected LSCA funds were appropriated for State Library operations. $25,000 in LSCA funds for each year of the biennium are earmarked for an on-line reference system.

In addition, the Legislature stipulated the following:

> "No additional general fund shall be allocated by the budget director to this agency for employee pay increases. Such increases shall be paid from federal funds. Federal funds received in excess of the AMOUNT appropriated and in excess of the amount needed for employee raises shall be passed through as grants to local libraries."

REHABILITATION ACT - HANDICAPPED — Regulations prohibiting discrimination against the handicapped have been published in the Federal Register, May 4, 1977.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 states that "no otherwise qualified handicapped individual...shall, solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

This applies to all recipients of federal assistance from HEW - including libraries.

A handicapped individual is defined as "any person who (a) has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more of such person's major life activities, (b) has a record of such an impairment, or (c) is regarded as having such an impairment." Former HEW Secretary David Mathews left the regulations unsigned because he felt Congressional intent was unclear as to whether this definition included alcoholics and drug addicts. An April 12 opinion by Attorney General Griffin Bell stated that these persons are covered by the regulations.

The main provisions of the regulations are:

(1) Employers must make reasonable accommodation to qualified handicapped applicants or employees unless it can be demonstrated that the accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the employer.
(2) All new facilities are to be constructed so as to be readily accessible to and usable by handicapped persons.
(3) Activities or programs in existing facilities are to be made accessible to the handicapped within 60 days of the effective date. If structural changes are necessary to accomplish this, they must be made within three years.
(4) Handicapped children are to be educated with nonhandicapped students to maximum extent appropriate to their needs. The provision of appropriate educational service to handicapped children must be designed to meet their needs to the same extent that those of nonhandicapped children are met. Appropriate materials and equipment must be available.
(5) Postsecondary institutions are to operate their programs and activities so that handicapped students are provided services in the most integrated setting appropriate. Students are not to be excluded from programs because of the lack of necessary auxiliary educational aids.

(6) A final section of the regulations covers health, welfare and social services.

For further information on the Rehabilitation Act, contact Montana State Library.

PEOPLE Georgia Peck, Librarian at the Stillwater County Library, Columbus, retired June 30. Mrs. Peck had been employed at the Library 25 years and was head librarian since 1965.

Edna Shuey, Librarian at Laurel Public Library for 13 years, has retired.

Violet McGee, Librarian, Belt Public Library, has retired. Mrs. Joe Fontana has taken the position of librarian.

Ruth Solie has resigned as Coordinator of Library Services, Montana State Library. She has moved to Connecticut where her husband, Roger Solie, will be associated with Wesleyan University, Middletown.

Cynthia Stewart-Petty has joined the staff at Montana State Library as reference librarian. She received her MLS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dave Martin has been appointed to the position of Head of Reference on Montana State Library's staff.

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION The Montana State Library Commission held its regular meeting on Saturday, July 9, in Billings at Parmly Billings Library. The Commission, in addition to handling its usual business matters, met with the South Central Federation of Libraries Advisory Board. Occasionally, the Commission will meet outside Helena to give local library boards, librarians and staffs, and federation advisory boards an opportunity to become acquainted with Commission members and to provide information about Commission policies concerning LSCA grant procedures and other State Library programs.

MONTANA PUBLIC LIBRARY FILM SERVICE The Montana State Library Commission has requested State Librarian, Alma S. Jacobs, to appoint a task force of federation coordinators and media librarians to review the Montana Public Library Film Service. This action was taken by the Commission after hearing the recommendation of the Public Library Division of Montana Library Association which read: "The Public Library Division at its annual meeting at the Montana Library Association Conference voted to recommend to the State Library Commission that a policy be adopted prohibiting the circulation of films from the Montana Public Library Film Service to schools."

This action was taken because public librarians are finding that films are increasingly unavailable for the use of their patrons as the use of the films by schools increases. The Commission has asked that the task force develop recommendations for the film service and its funding and make a report of its findings to the Commission.

1977 LSCA GRANTS The Montana State Library Commission and the Advisory Council on Libraries have approved grants from 1977 LSCA funds as follows:

Bozeman Public Library for Broad Valleys Federation $22,843; Glasgow City-County Library for Golden Plains Federation $3,889; Great Falls Public Library for Pathfinder Federation $42,889; Miles City Public Library for Sagebrush Federation $12,610; Parmly Billings Library for South Central Federation $28,743; City-County Library of Missoula for Tamarack Federation $36,559. The Library Development Committee and the Continuing Education Committee of Montana Library Association have received $2,000 each. The Montana State Prison received $6,000 to purchase legal material. The Montana Public Library Film Service, administered by Great Falls Public Library, will receive $10,000 (FY 1977) and $5,000 (FY 1978)

The Health Sciences Network, through Montana State University Library, will receive $1,500. $7,500 will be used in a joint humanistic project with the Montana Committee for the Humanities and Montana State Library. $6,488 has been paid to the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE).

The following public libraries will receive $1,000 each for special projects of their own choosing:

Red Lodge Carnegie Library; Golden Valley County Library Board; Denton Public Library; Roundup Community Library; Big Horn County Library, Hardin; Bridger Public Library; Judith Basin County Library, Stanford; Moore Memorial Library; Augusta Community Library; Belgrade Public Library; Belt Public Library; Boulder Community Library; Henry Malley Memorial Library, Broadus; Carter County Library, Ekalaka; Chouteau County Free Library, Fort Benton; Conrad Public Library, Daniels County Library, Scobey; William K. Kohrs Memorial Library, Deer Lodge; Dillon Public Library; Drummond Public Library; Dutton Public Library; Clancy Memorial Library, Ennis; Fallon County Library, Baker; Fairfield Public Library; Flathead County Library, Kalispell; Garfield County Library, Jordan; Glendive Public Library; Hamilton Public Library; Havre Public Library; Hot Springs Public Library; Laurel Public Library; Lewis & Clark Library, Helena; Lincoln Community Library; Lincoln County Free Library, Libby; Livingston Public Library; McCone County Library, Circle; Meagher County-City Library, White Sulphur Springs; Mineral County Library, Superior; Philipsburg Public Library; Polson City Library; Prairie County Library, Terry; Rosebud County Library, Forsyth; St. Ignatius Public Library; Sheridan County Free Library, Plentywood; Sheridan Public Library; Sidney Public Library; Swan Lake Library; Thompson Falls Public Library; Three Forks Community Library; Twin Bridges Public Library; Valier Public Library; Wedsworth Memorial Library, Cascade; John Gregory Memorial Library, Whitehall; Wibaux Public Library; Thompson-Hickman Free County Library, Virginia City; Liberty County Library, Chester; Toole County Free Library, Shelby; Hill County Library, Havre; Blaine County Library, Chinook; Harlem Public Library.

MONTANA COMMITTEE FOR THE HUMANITIES

The Montana Committee for the Humanities is presently reexamining its grant-making program in an effort to encourage greater flexibility in the kinds of grant making the Committee undertakes. The Committee is enabled to make grants in all of the areas which foster education in, and public understanding and appreciation of the humanities. The Committee is interested in hearing from the citizens of Montana in determining its new directions.

The Humanities program does provide some excellent opportunities for Montana libraries to develop programs and activities that they would not be able to fund without the financial assistance that the Committee offers. This is the time for Montana librarians to consider the kinds of programs they would like to see funded and to express their decisions to the Committee.

Some of the areas of possible activities which the Committee will be considering are:

(1) Cultural institutions' programs which could assist libraries, museums and other cultural institutions to become centers of formal education in their communities.
(2) Media programs - support for film, radio and TV productions which advance public use and understanding of the humanities.
(3) Humanities lecture series.
(4) Humanities film series.
(5) Fellowships or seminars for the professions.

The Committee is not limited to these areas, and if you have other ideas for programs in which libraries could participate, please do write to the Committee. Letters should be

addressed to: Margaret Kingsland, Director, Montana Committee for the Humanities, 322 Turner Hall, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59801.

NEH CHALLENGE GRANTS — Public libraries are eligible to apply for National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grants, a new and complementary program that is intended to stimulate continuing, long-term support for humanistic institutions.

A minimum of three non-federal dollars is required for every one federal dollar. The basic requirement is that the matching funds must be from new sources or in addition to the support provided by traditional sources. In general, customary or fixed annual contributions or appropriations cannot be considered as "new" funds.

Challenge Grant funds may be used for: general operating expenses (including salaries, rent, utilities, etc.); defraying of operating deficits; renovation of facilities; acquisition of equipment and materials; maintenance, preservation and conservation of collections; improved planning, evaluation and automated data systems; design and conducting of development and fund-raising efforts; new or expanded programming and services; increased community-oriented information and "out-reach" programs; establishment of programs for resource sharing.

Challenge Grant funds may not be used for construction of new facilities. However, donated funds for this purpose may be used to meet the matching requirements of a Challenge Grant and the NEH portion may then be used for current or other operating expenses.

For detailed information, contact NEH Challenge Grants - Inquiries, MS-800, National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, DC 20506.

BEST BOOKS FOR YOUNG ADULTS — The American Library Association's Young Adult Services Division (YASD) is looking for artists - aged 13 to 18 - to design a cover for the ALA-YASD booklist, "Best Books for Young Adults".

The cover design should be 9" x 3-3/4" in black ink on white paper and must include the words "Best Books for Young Adults 1977". The student's name, school, age and home address should be on the back of the cover.

Send designs, by December 1, 1977, to Jerry Stevens, Young Adult Coordinator, Fresno County Free Library, 2420 Mariposa, Fresno, CA 93721.

The winning design will be chosen at ALA's midwinter meeting in January, 1978.

It would be great to have a Montana winner. All librarians working with young people in this age group should encourage participation.

MONTANIANA — Montana State Library has purchased a great deal of Montana material since the last issue of the Newsletter. Volume 10, No. 7, will be devoted to listing all of this material, and will be mailed out very soon. Remember: This section of the Newsletter will list all Montana items added to the collection of the State Library. The State Library will continue to list only those items available in its collection. Prepublication notices cannot be accepted.